

BENNETT PUTNAM.

FEBRUARY 29, 1904.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. McCUMBER (for Mr. BURTON), from the Committee on Pensions,
submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 5879.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5879) granting an increase of pension to Bennett Putnam, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

Bennett Putnam, of 2523 Buchanan street, Topeka, Kans., was a private in Company F, Third United States Infantry, from September 20, 1844, to September 20, 1849, and while so serving participated in the war with Mexico, and he is now receiving the pension of \$12 per month allowed by law to the totally disabled and dependent survivors of said war.

The testimony accompanying the bill shows that the claimant is 81 years old, and that aside from a little home, for which he paid \$300, he has no property whatever, and is dependent upon his pension for support. It is further shown by the testimony of several witnesses, including his family physician, that claimant, by reason of his age and physical ailments, is unable to perform any labor by which to aid in the support of himself and his aged wife.

There are many precedents for the allowance of additional relief in cases of this character, and the passage of the bill is therefore recommended.